



**Date:** February 11, 2015

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**From:** Karmisha R. Wallace, Senior Assistant to the City Manager  
**Subject:** Confirmation of Civilian Police Review Board Members

### **Executive Summary**

The Civilian Police Review Board (“Board”) is comprised of nine members who were all previously appointed by the City Manager. In November 2014, the City Council affirmed the City Manager’s recommendation that appointments to the Civilian Police Review Board require the City Manager recommended appointees to be confirmed by the City Council. The Board currently has five vacancies as the result of term expirations, and the City Council is being asked to confirm the five individuals recommended by the City Manager.

### **Recommendation**

To confirm the City Manager’s five appointments to the Civilian Police Review Board

### **Background**

The Civilian Police Review Board was established in 1998 to serve in an advisory capacity to the City Manager. The Board is comprised of nine individuals, all of whom must:

- be at least 21 years old
- reside in corporate City limits consistently for three years prior to appointment
- be current on local property taxes at the time of application and throughout term
- not have A1, 1, 2 misdemeanor or felony convictions

Background checks are performed on appointees. Civilian Police Review Board members are required to maintain strict confidentiality and:

- complete the Durham Citizen Police Academy;
- complete training on legal issues surrounding arrest, search and investigation in North Carolina (provided by the City Attorney’s Office); and
- complete 16 hours of a “Ride Along.”

Civilian Police Review Board members serve four-year terms and are compensated at a rate of \$25 per meeting. The Board meets at least once per quarter.

### **Issues and Analysis**

The Board’s mandate is to determine whether the Professional Standards Division of the Durham Police Department investigated a complaint in an appropriate manner; specifically, whether the Police Department abused its discretion in the conduct of the investigation. As prescribed in State law, Board members have access to investigation-related information; therefore, it is imperative that members remain impartial and maintain strict confidentiality.

The Board serves in an advisory capacity to the City Manager by providing feedback on any observations made in their review of cases. The Board also makes recommendations to the City Manager based on information presented. The Board will continue to assist with police and community relations by hosting community forums and presenting information on the Civilian Police Review Board at PAC and neighborhood meetings.

There are currently five vacancies on the Civilian Police Review Board which resulted from term expirations. Vacancies were advertised by the City Clerk's Office and 26 applications were forwarded to the City Manager for consideration. All applications were vetted and interviewees were selected based on the information included in the candidates' application. Of the eight people interviewed, five individuals are being recommended to fill the vacancies that currently exist. The following individuals are being recommended for appointment to the Board:

NAME	RACE	GENDER	PAC
Kelli Dugan	Caucasian	Female	3
Rachel Green*	African American	Female	1
David Harris*	African American	Male	2
David Smith*	Caucasian	Male	3
Susan Veasey	Caucasian	Female	3

(\* denotes individuals who have previously served on the Civilian Police Review Board)

The following individuals are current Civilian Police Review Board members whose terms are scheduled to expire on June 30, 2015:

NAME	RACE	GENDER	PAC
Deborah Bowling	African American	Female	1
Stephen Kraus	Caucasian	Male	4
DeWarren Langley, Chair	African American	Male	3
Cynthia Wells	Caucasian	Female	2

### **Alternatives**

The City Council could elect not to appoint the five individuals being recommended by the City Manager. If that decision is made, the City Manager would interview additional applicants for consideration.

### **Financial Impact**

The confirmation of Civilian Police Review Board members does not have a financial impact on the City. Board members are compensated at a rate of \$25.00 for each regular meeting attended. Payments are made twice a year.

### **SDBE Summary**

Not Applicable

### **Attachments**

{Applications of individuals being recommended for Civilian Police Review Board appointments}